

Message Text

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73/63

ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIE-00

INRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 /060 R

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (LINE 10 OMITTED)

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XM

SUBJECT: PRESS BRIEFING EXCHANGE ON REPORTED ALLUSION TO

CIA IN VELASCO'S SPEECH FEBRUARY 17

FOLLOWING EXCHANGE OCCURRED IN DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING
TODAY, FEBRUARY 18:

Q: COULD YOU COMMENT ON REMARKS YESTERDAY BY THE PRESIDENT
OF PERU, WHO IN A PUBLIC SPEECH CHARGED SOME GROUPS WITH
RESPONSIBILITY FOR LAST WEEK'S RIOTS AND SAID THAT "VERY
LIKELY THERE WAS MONEY AND INSPIRATION FROM A WELL KNOWN
INTERNATIONAL ESPIONAGE ORGANIZATION?" THIS SEEMS LIKE A
SUGGESTION THAT CIA IS INVOLVED, IN THE LIGHT OF PERUVIAN
STATEMENTS OF THE LAST WEEK OR SO.

A: WE HAVE NOT SEEN THE TEXT OF PRESIDENT VELASCO'S

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SPEECH, BUT THE CATEGORICAL ANSWER TO THE CHARGE IS THAT

THE CIA WAS NOT INVOLVED AND THAT WE HAVE MADE THAT POINT
CLEAR TO THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT.

Q: HAS ANY PROTEST BEEN MADE TO THE PERUVIANS FOLLOWING
THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT OF YESTERDAY?

A: I DON'T KNOW THE ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION. MAW

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